

REMARKS

Allowed Claims

Claims 14-16 are pending in the present application and were indicated by the Examiner to be allowed in the final Office action dated October 19, 2004. Claims 14 and 15 are independent claims. Claim 16 depends from claim 15.

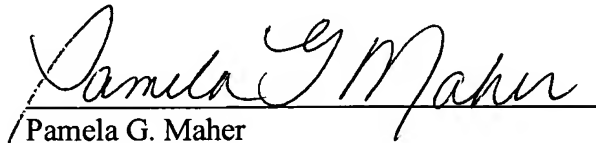
Additionally, claims 10 and 12 have been amended such that they now depend from claim 14. Accordingly, claims 10-13 and 17-23 all depend from independent claim 14. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10-23 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing discussions, it is believed clear that the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the prior art. Therefore, consideration and allowance of claims 10-23 is believed to be in order, and an early Notice of Allowance to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any questions concerning the foregoing, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (310) 712-8319. The undersigned attorney can normally be reached Monday through Friday from about 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM Pacific Time.

Respectfully submitted,

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